

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 086341

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:SENV,CA

SUBJECT:GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT

1. AT 2PM EST APRIL 18 PRESIDENT CARTER WILL ANNOUNCE
HIS DECISION REGARDING THE CONTINUED CONSTRUCTION OF
THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT. WE WISH TO INFORM THE
GOC IN ADVANCE OF THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT AND REQUEST
THE CHARGE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL.
THERE IS, HOWEVER, SOME POSSIBILITY THAT THE GUIDANCE
GIVEN BELOW WILL CHANGE FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENT'S FINAL
REVIEW OF STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS THEREFORE NO STATEMENT
IS TO BE MADE TO THE GOC WITHOUT EXPLICIT TELEPHONIC
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AUTHORIZATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT (EUR/CAN). WE WILL
ENDEAVOR TO PROVIDE SUCH AUTHORIZATION PRIOR TO 10AM EST.

2. BEGIN TEXT. THIS AFTERNOON PRESIDENT CARTER WILL
ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF HIS REVIEW OF A NUMBER OF WATER
RESOURCE PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT.
HE WILL RECOMMEND CONTINUED CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT,

BUT WITH SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS. WHILE THE ALTERATIONS OUTLINED BELOW REFLECT IN PART THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT STUDY BOARD, THEY ARE NOT INTENDED TO PREJUDGE THE REPORT TO GOVERNMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION OR ANY SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA REGARDING THE PROJECT'S TRANS-BOUNDARY IMPACTS.

3. THE PRESIDENT WILL ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING MAJOR ALTERATIONS IN THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT:

A) THE REMOVAL OF LANDS IN THE AREA OF THE SOURIS LOOP FROM THOSE TO BE SERVICED BY THE PROJECT.

B) A REDUCTION IN SIZE OF THE LONETREE RESERVOIR.

C) A REDUCTION IN SIZE OF THE NEW ROCKFORD CANAL.

4. THE COMMITMENTS GIVEN THE GOC ON FEBRUARY 5, 1974 AND FEBRUARY 18, 1977 ARE UNALTERED BY THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO CONTINUE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL UNDERTAKE NO CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS IN THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT POTENTIALLY AFFECTING WATERS FLOWING INTO CANADA UNTIL IT IS CLEAR THAT ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE BOUNDARY WATERS TREATY OF 1909 WILL BE MET. A CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LONETREE DAM WILL NOT BE LET UNTIL AFTER THE REPORT TO GOVERNMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

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END TEXT.
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